

NO LIGHT SHINES ON STONE MYSTERY

Wytheville Man, Who Has Disappeared, Believed to Be a Victim of Foul Play.

\$500 REWARD IS ANNOUNCED

It Is Known Missing Man Had in His Possession at the Time a Neat Roll of Money.



A. MECK STONE, secretary and treasurer of Stone Electric Light and Power Company, of Wytheville, whose mysterious disappearance has caused much excitement in the community and grief to his family.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WYTHEVILLE, Va., August 24.—The shroud of mystery surrounding the disappearance of A. Meek Stone, secretary and treasurer of the Stone Electric Light and Power Company, of Wytheville, who left here last Monday, seems each day drawn in closer and more impenetrable folds about the entire affair.

In the hope of securing some information which may lead to the restoration of the young man to his family, A. F. Stone, his father, has offered a reward of \$500, to be paid to the man responsible for his son's recovery. Leaving here Monday, Stone had intended, it is said, to go to Galax, Va., but instead took the train for Roanoke. He had a considerable amount of money upon his person.

The last authentic information which can be secured as to his movements after arriving in Roanoke is that at midnight Monday he was seen standing near the depot and the St. James Hotel, in Roanoke.

Mr. A. F. Stone left here to-day on his return to Roanoke, where he will further prosecute the search for his son.

The missing man is thirty years old, and was married ten years ago. The members of his family are greatly distressed over his continued and unexplained absence.

BLOW TO FARMERS

State River Mills Burn With \$500 Bushels of Stored Grain.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] DILLWYN, Va., August 24.—State River Mills, owned by J. B. Le Seur, burned to the ground Sunday night about 10 o'clock. The building was valued at about \$5,000. About \$500 bushels of wheat were stored in the mill. The amount of wheat represented the crop of about 400 farmers in and around Buckingham. The fire will be a blow to the smaller farmers in this section.

How the fire originated no one is able to tell. Some blame the damage to rats and matches. It is not known whether or not the property was insured.



THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP

Musical Artists Prefer the STIEFF PIANO

because its tone is more harmonious and expressive, its singing quality greater, and its scale more perfect and even than that possessed by any other piano.

The style of case design in the Stieff is most artistic and made in all woods. The price is most reasonable when taking into consideration the very superior quality of the instrument.

Call or write for our special catalogue and price list.

Chas. M. Stieff,
Established 1842.
205 E. Broad Street
L. B. SAUGHTER,
Manager.

SECOND DISTRICT RACE VERY CLOSE

Careful Analysis of Situation Seems to Give Maynard Slight Advantage.

CABELL CLOSE ON HIS HEELS

Holland Is Out of the Running, Though His Full Strength Is Unknown.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] SUFFOLK, Va., August 24.—On this the even of the bitterest primary the Second District has known, the situation is clouded with considerable doubt, but a careful analysis of the situation in every county and city gives Maynard a shade the better of the outlook, and he likely will be re-nominated by a small plurality.

There are numbers of contingencies and influences which could change this forecast, but the facts are based on studious review of existing conditions on the day before.

The unknown strength of J. Peter Holland in the triangular combat is a factor which helps to befog advance conclusions.

Old Opponents. Colonel Cabell and Mr. Maynard were the combatants two years ago, but since then there have been radical shifts of alliance among the electors. Men are fighting with vigor the candidates whom they supported two years ago, and besides the very much larger vote to be cast introduces many men whose preferences were previously unrecorded.

The weather, too, may be a determining factor in the result. A fair day will favor Maynard and also will largely increase Holland's vote. Looking over the field in detail, no one only facts that can be put down as absolutely certain are that Maynard will carry Portsmouth city and Norfolk county, and Cabell will carry Norfolk. It is almost as sure that Maynard will carry Nansemond county and Cabell will carry Princess Anne county. Maynard is claiming Isle of Wight county, and Cabell is claiming both Isle of Wight and Southampton counties. These last two counties are generally conceded to be chaffs of Holland, and will cut but little figure in the result.

Fall to Cabell. With Holland out of the winning, though, these two counties will help Cabell, and he will get a plurality in Isle of Wight, but granting that Holland carries Southampton, Cabell over there will run ahead of Maynard and will therefore be benefited by the result in that community.

With Isle of Wight, Nansemond and Southampton taken as a unit, being practically a standoff as far as the leaders are concerned, the question is: Will Maynard stump and carry Portsmouth and Norfolk county overcome those of Cabell in Norfolk city and Prince Anne county?

The forecast is that they will, and that he will be nominated by a small majority.

Much Betting. There have been many bets on the outcome, friends of both Cabell and Maynard claiming victory by a margin of 100 votes.

Probably no district campaign in Virginia has been more bitterly contested. All of the aspirants have been active on the stump, and there have been several joint debates. Holland has met on the stump both of his opponents, but Cabell and Maynard have never taken each other's platform measure.

Question Veracity. The speakers have publicly questioned veracity, impugned motives, attacked policies and principles, belittled and ridiculed talents and accomplishments.

And now that their abuses and claims and cases are before the Democratic jury the people are glad that the agony is well-nigh ended.

Two primary end happenings may have some effect on the result. On Sunday Colonel Cabell mailed out thousands of circulars to the voters. The envelopes received in nearby counties contained the following: "I am appealing for support, outlining what the writer opposes and stands for; one sheet devoted to the peanut tariff and another containing the resolutions from Danville officeholders."

Another occurrence which is being used by both Holland and Maynard in this section is the fact that the Portsmouth executive committee, presumably a Maynard committee, declined to allow Holland a judge in two wards, notwithstanding the secretary of the committee asked for and received from Holland a list containing names of prominent citizens, who recommended him.

This afternoon Mr. Holland issued a statement from his home in Franklin, declaring he expected to win. He repeated that he would never again be candidate for re-election, falsehoods, these statements were made when he thought it too late for correction.

SAYS CABELL FALSIFIED

Representative Maynard Charges Opponent With Underhand Work. SUFFOLK, Va., August 24.—Representative Maynard tonight sent the following telegram to H. E. Smith, his Nansemond county leader:

"Statement contained in Cabell's circular that I voted for increase in Congressmen's salaries false. Also statement that I would never again be candidate for re-election, falsehood. These statements were made when he thought it too late for correction."

Close Race for Congress. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NORFOLK, Va., August 24.—On the eve of the election to-day, Congressman Maynard and Colonel Cabell are predicting their election, while Candidate Holland declares that he is still in the race, but is attempting no estimate of a majority.

Congressman Maynard declares that his majority in the district will be 2,000. Colonel Cabell is more modest, and estimates that his plurality over Maynard will be 600. Maynard is confident he will secure more votes than the other two men combined.

The impartial observer who has been following the campaign for the past week or ten days admits that the race is in doubt, and that the successful candidate will have only a narrow margin to his credit, so far as Congressman Maynard or Colonel Cabell is concerned.

ROBBED BOX CAR.

Stanton Young Men Accused of Theft

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] STAUNTON, Va., August 24.—Police officers caught Lawrence Brower and Herbert Marple, two young white men of this city, in a Chesapeake and Ohio box car at 1 o'clock Saturday morning, but Marple jerked loose, dodged the car and escaped. Boxes of merchandise had been broken open and articles removed.

Later in the day, Norman Loving, another young man, was discovered sleeping in the basement of the city building, behind the furnace and was locked up charged with being a party to the robbery of the car.

The Sales Manager Says: Room for Fall Stock Must be Had

We have the largest stock of Exchanged Pianos in the city—Pianos that have been used, more or less, and that we have taken in the course of business as part payment for new Cable Pianos. THESE USED PIANOS MUST BE MOVED to make way for our fall and winter stock, which will be one of the largest ever put in by us.

Sacrifice Prices Prevail

We quote a few among the many money-saving offers this large stock presents:

One \$400 Emerson (used) now - - - \$168
One \$300 Marshall & Wendall (used) - - - \$150
One \$350 Steiff (used) now - - - \$225
One \$500 Everett (used) now - - - \$300

COME IN AND HEAR OUR

Victor Records BY Bryan and Taft

THE TRUST QUESTION, THE TARIFF QUESTION, THE LABOR QUESTION, and many other subjects.

The Cable Company
J. G. CORLEY, Genl. Mgr.

PAGE'S DEATH WAS BY HIS OWN HAND

Funeral of Deceased Held at 10 o'clock Sunday Morning in Baptist Church.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., August 24.—The funeral of William G. Page, the wealthy bachelor merchant of Batesville, who ended his life in such a tragic manner Friday morning, took place at 10 o'clock Sunday morning from Mount Ed Baptist Church, at Batesville. The edifice was filled to overflowing with the friends of the deceased, and the service was a very impressive one.

Four ministers participated in the service—Rev. J. L. Wiley, pastor of Mount Ed Church; Rev. C. R. James, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. Mr. Hobbs, of the Baptist Church; and the Rev. Mr. Jameson, of the Episcopal Church. The funeral arrangements were in charge of King Solomon Lodge, No. 184, A. O. U. M., of Vanover's Mill, of which the deceased was a member. Most of the pallbearers were members of the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle, on which the deceased had served conspicuously for eighteen years. The interment was in the family section at Batesville.

Case of Suicide. Further details of the tragedy show conclusively that it was a case of suicide. The finding yesterday morning of the weapon with which Mr. Page ended his life precludes the belief held by some that he was a victim of foul play. The pistol was discovered in the bottom of the reservoir at almost the exact spot where the body was located after the million gallons of water had been turned off.

The delirium which the suicide must have gone about his task is puzzling to his friends, who thought Will Page would have been the last man in the world to take his own life. Page left his store at Batesville at 10 o'clock in the morning, saying that he was going to visit his farm near Red Hill, as was his custom about three times a week. Turning from the road to Red Hill, he wended his way up an abandoned driveway to the Miller School reservoir. He here is supposed to have divested himself of his coat and hat, which he took especial care to hang on the iron fence around the dam (presumably as a signal to aid searchers in locating his body). He is then supposed to have leaped over a six-foot picket fence and clambered out on a little trestle which extends some distance over the body of water. Here, it is believed, he fired a bullet through his head, and to make death certain, toppled over into thirty feet of water.

An examination showed that the ball entered just over his right ear and came out the left side of his head. Physicians say he was evidently dead before he struck the water. Not a single scratch could be found on his body.

The revolver was identified as the one he kept about the store. The watch which he wore on his person had stopped at 10:30, showing that he had lost no time in going direct to the reservoir. The reservoir is fully two miles from Batesville.

Mrs. Molly Nicholas, the only sister of the deceased, was conspicuous by her absence at the funeral. She was peculiarly devoted to her brother William, with whom she had made her home for a number of years past. Her sudden death was a severe blow to her, and it will be some time before she recovers from the shock. Physicians have been with her constantly since the happening.

DEMOCRATS WILL HAVE GRAND RALLY

Goshen Bryan Club Will Father the Movement With Enthusiasm.

PROMINENT MEN WILL SPEAK

Montague, Tucker and Alderman Will Probably Make Addresses.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] GOSHEN, Va., August 24.—Plans are well under way here for one of the biggest Democratic rallies ever held in the State early in October. The big ratification meeting will be held under the auspices of the Goshen Bryan Club, the first very important Bryan club to be organized in this State. Mr. Bryan himself has already evinced the greatest interest in this organization. The following letter was received this day from the great commoner:

"President A. G. Harman, Goshen, Va.: 'My Dear Sir—Your favor at hand. I am very glad to know of the formation of the Goshen Bryan Club, and am sorry that I cannot attend the ratification meeting to be held on August 29th. I am not at all alarmed at the reports that are given out at the Republican headquarters to the effect that the Republican candidate is making inroads on our vote in some of the Southern States. I think I know the South and its loyalty to Democratic principles. Our platform is so purely and completely democratic in all its planks that I am sure your State and the other Southern States will give a large Democratic majority. I hope that a Democratic club will be organized in each precinct, and that the members of the club will see to it that a full Democratic vote is polled.'"

"Please present my compliments to the members of your club, and say to them I hope your organization will increase in numbers and in influence. 'Very truly yours, W. J. BRYAN.'"

It was not intended to hold the campaign in this State by holding a big meeting on August 29th. Several of the most important speakers found it impossible to come on that date, and President A. G. Harman and the committee, who are assisting him in the work, have decided not to hold the meeting until early in October when it is hoped to have some of the best orators connected in the Bryan forces on the program and in addition there will be some notable home talent.

President Harman has already received letters from Governor Andrew Jackson Montague, and Harry St. George Tucker accepting the invitations to speak. President Alderman of the University of Virginia and other prominent speakers are also expected to be present.

Elaborate preparations are being made for the occasion, which promises to be of widespread interest.

An amphitheatre on the grounds of the University of Virginia will be the site of the gathering, and the accommodation of the spectators, a flag-raising, the flag to be made of silk and presented by some of the most prominent women of the State, and elaborate music are to be some of the features of the entertaining and instructive gathering.

The following open letter has been received from Senator Martin:

"Mr. A. G. Harman, President Goshen Bryan Club, Goshen, Va.: 'My Dear Sir—Your letter of the 12th instant in relation to the organization of the Goshen Bryan Club came duly to hand.'"

I believe your club was the first to organize in the State, but whether first or last, it is a credit to you and none with a better or stronger organization or likely to do more for our cause than the Goshen Bryan Club. I am glad to hear that the club represents. Recent political events have emphasized the importance of constant recurrence to elementary principles and the need of a re-education of the voters of the country. If we are to adhere to the sound Democratic principles imbedded in our political platform, we must first of all re-educate the voters.

It is very gratifying to see the harmony and peace which exists among the friends of the Democratic cause, and with which they are working together. All over the country for the approaching campaign.

The following open letter has been received from the invitation to be present at the mass-meeting to be held on the 29th instant on the grounds of the Rockbridge Inn at Goshen. It would be a real pleasure to have you present on that occasion, but I regret to have to say that my engagements will make it impossible. With best wishes for your success, I am, Sir, very truly, yours, THOMAS S. MARTIN.

TWO-HEADED SNAKE

Curious Reptile Found Near Bowling Green, Va.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BOWLING GREEN, Va., August 24.—Mr. Robert Parr, while building a telephone line between Pendola and Shumansville, discovered a two-headed snake to-day, which he captured alive. The snake is a young one, and appears to be of the blacksnake species. Both of its heads are perfect and well developed. It has the ability to use both at the same time, or to use one and keep the other in reserve. The heads branch out from the body at the same point, and are exactly alike and appear to be perfect in every particular.

Polk Miller Entertains.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] CHASE CITY, Va., August 24, 1908.—An event more than usual interest at the Mechanicsville Hotel, Chase City, Friday of the well-known and popular Richmond man, Mr. Polk Miller, of negro color, gave a most enjoyable party.

Mr. Miller is here recuperating, and yesterday morning entertained all the guests of the hotel most delightfully with a large and sumptuous dinner. For an hour he had every one convulsed with laughter and much merriment was enjoyed by the large crowd assembled in the lobby.

Fire in Lynchburg

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] LYNCHBURG, Va., August 24.—Early this morning the residence on Rivermont Avenue occupied by Mr. J. C. Hamner caught fire from an unknown cause, and before it was extinguished had consumed the building and furniture to the extent of about \$1,000, which was only partially covered by insurance.

Post (Formerly called) Roasties

"HAVE ARRIVED"

Merit and the "Taste that Lingers" keeps the delicious, crisp, brown food in mind when something nice is wanted.

Two sizes, 10c and 15c.

Made by Postum Cereal Company, Limited, Battle Creek, Mich.

Energy is well-nourished muscles plus well-nourished nerves.

Uneeda Biscuit

are the greatest energy-makers of all the wheat foods.

5¢ In dust tight, moisture proof packages. Never sold in bulk.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Petersburg News

Times-Dispatch Bureau, 105 North Spencer Street, Petersburg, Va., August 24.

The final rally of the temperance people before the local option election to be held in Matocca District, in Chesterfield county, to-morrow, was held in Ettrick last night. The churches in that village were closed, in order that the congregations might lend their presence and influence at the meeting.

The attendance was quite large, and the spirit of the meeting gave evidence that a full vote of the friends of no license will be polled to-morrow. Judge Mann was the principal speaker at the meeting. While the district embraces the villages of Ettrick and Matocca, and Winfree's Store election precinct, there are only two licensed bar-rooms in the territory, and they are both in Ettrick. No application was made for a license at any other point in the district. Both "wet" and "dry" are claiming a victory at to-morrow's election.

Mrs. Sarah J. Sandford, widow of R. W. Sandford, died last evening at the residence of her son-in-law, James H. Carson, on Hollingsbrook Street. The funeral will take place from the residence to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Man Cuts Woman's Throat. A serious cutting affair occurred this afternoon in Rose Alley, Della King, colored, narrowly escaping death at the hands of her friend and paramour, David Morris. In the phrase of the street, the two had for some time been "keeping company."

This afternoon Morris, who had been drinking, became abusive to the woman, and was ordered from her house. Instead of leaving he attacked her with a knife, inflicting an ugly gash in her throat, the blade almost grazing the large blood vessels of the neck. The screams of the woman brought aid and saved her from further injury. The physician who was called to the woman says she escaped death by the narrowest margin. As it is, she will be laid up for some time. Morris was arrested and lodged in jail to await trial.

A stabbing affair of less serious result occurred Saturday evening. William Wood being stabbed in the breast by William Laws, both colored. The two men got to quarreling while at work in a factory, and the stabbing resulted. In the Police Court this morning Laws was sentenced to jail for thirty days.

General News. The State convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians will meet in annual session in Portsmouth to-morrow. The officers of the Petersburg branch of the order have been designated as delegates from this city, and their alternates have been appointed.

The Petersburg District Baptist Association, embracing the churches in this city, Ettrick and adjacent counties, will meet in the Newville Baptist Church, in Sussex county, on September 15th. All the churches will be represented by the pastors and lay delegates.

Dr. Hampden Aulick Burke, senior house surgeon at St. Vincent's Hospital, in Norfolk, expects soon to locate in Petersburg to practice his profession. He is the son of Dr. J. M. Burke, of this city.

The lighting of the Church of the Good Shepherd with acetylene gas, manufactured by its own plant, proves entirely satisfactory. The church is now as well lighted as any church in the city.

Mr. Thomas H. Boisseau, of this city, will celebrate the seventy-second anniversary of his birth to-morrow. Mr. Boisseau is a native of Dinwiddie, and is the last surviving magistrate of this old court building, which went out of existence with the close of the war.

Chief Edgar A. Farley, of the Fire Department, has gone to Columbus, O., to attend the annual session of the National Association of Fire Chiefs. Mr. W. J. Kimmartin and Miss Nellie Kimmartin left to-day to visit friends in Newark, N. J.

Mr. Bartlett Roper, Sr., one of our largest wholesale merchants and most honored citizens, is quite indisposed at his home, on Market Street.

No clue has yet been obtained to the burglar who robbed the residence of John J. Duell, on Sheppard Street, Friday night, and who chloroformed Mrs. Duell and her child.

Baseball News.

The army team of Old Point arrived here to-day to play three games with the Petersburg team.

The home team has signed Pitcher Trevelian and Infielder Johnson, both well-known in baseball circles. Two other new players are expected this week.

The Hagerstown (Md.) team will be here Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and the Wilmington team, the pennant winners of the Carolina League, will play one week here, beginning on September 7th. Labor Day. The Richmond League team is scheduled to play the

and to make the whole place a veritable paradise.

While the last oyster season is said to have been poor, oystermen feel greatly encouraged over the report that the catch of oyster spat this season is very fine, and that the young oysters are in good condition. The catch in the seaside waters is said to be especially large.

Two Thousand Present.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] SPOTSVYLDIA, Va., August 24.—Over 2,000 people assembled on yesterday at the holiness camp grounds, in this county. The great auditorium was far too small to accommodate them, with seats. The services were spirited and fervent, and these will continue for some ten days.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] LANCASTER, Va., August 24.—The Baptist camp-meeting which began at Kirkland Grove, near Heathsville, ten days ago, closed to-day. The meeting was in charge of Rev. H. S. Driscoll, the local pastor, while the preaching was done by the Rev. Weston Bruner and the Rev. C. P. Stealey, both of Washington.

The singing was led by Mr. Thomas Fred, of Baltimore, with his wife at the organ. Miss Linda Snow, of Heathsville, a recent graduate of the Peabody Institute, and a musician of rare talent, lent valuable assistance in the singing. The meeting was largely attended, more than 5,000 people being present on several days, and it is said to have been one of the most successful ever held there.

The Wharton Grove camp-meeting, in the southern part of Lancaster, also under the auspices of the Baptists, began last Friday. In spite of the cooling weather a great concourse assembled there yesterday, but the steady rain that is falling to-day will evidently diminish the crowd and decrease the enthusiasm shown on such occasions.

Rev. Frederick W. Claybrook, of Kilmarnock, the local pastor, has charge of the meeting, while Rev. Dr. Henry Marvin Wharton, the noted evangelist, and many of the resident ministers of this section will do the preaching. A notable feature of the meeting is a Sunday-school institute, conducted by the Rev. Charles D. Dilworth, D. D., the Rev. H. C. Moore and the Rev. N. B. Broughton, three of the most successful Sunday-school workers in the country.

With fair weather from now on, Mr. Claybrook expects this encampment to be one of the greatest religious gatherings ever held in Eastern Virginia.

As yet but little interest has been manifested here in the approaching presidential and congressional election; but things will begin to warm up at the next term of the Circuit Court, which begins on the third Monday in September, when both Congressman William A. Jones and Hon. Edgar E. Montague, Democratic elector for this district, are expected to make speeches. It is also hoped that former Congressman Harry St. George Tucker can also be induced to be present on the occasion and address the people of this section.

Henri Belmont de la Rue, who came to grief in Baltimore last week by being adjudged a lunatic and sent to the Bayview Asylum, turns out to be the man who some time ago came to Lancaster county, and representing himself to be a multi-millionaire, entertained the people in and around Irvington with accounts of magnificent schemes and projects he had in mind for the development and improvement of that section, one of them being the purchase of the celebrated Point Francis property, on which he said he intended to erect the most extensive and costly buildings to be found on any private estate in America.

Department A

Cement, Lime and Plaster. All the standard makes are sold.

Department B

Nails and Wire. Such well-known makes as Pearson's Cement-Coated Wire Nails are sold.

Department C

Roofing Materials of all descriptions.

Department D

General Hardware, Cutlery, Tools, etc.

Department E

Carriage Materials, Wheels, Axles, Springs, etc.

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(Incorporated)

General Hardware,

1557 East Main Street